

**Minutes From a Meeting of the Concordia Council on
Student Life**
Held on Friday, April 2, 2004
Loyola Campus PY-244 10:00am

PRESENT: Dr. C. Bertrand, Chair, Ms J. Hackett, Secretary, Ms W. Avalos, Ms S. Bakarally, Mr. R. Côté, Ms M. Drew, Mr. B. Farrington, Me P. Frégeau, Mr. B. Hamideh, Dr. N. Howe, Dr. S.M. Graub, Ms S. Novembre, Mr. S. Rosenshein, Ms D. Ross, Dr. F. Shaver, Ms K. Sheahan, Ms C. Steenbergen, Ms C. Boujaklian, Mr. J. Brisebois, Mr. W. Curran, Ms L. Gould, Ms K. Hedrich, Ms L. Toscano

ABSENT WITH REGRETS: Ms F. Naqvi, Ms L. Lipscombe, Ms P. Posius, Mr. P. Blais

ABSENT: Mr. A. Talaat

GUESTS: Ms A. Ghadban, Mr. W. Miller, Mr. D. Chambers, Ms C. Xydous, Mr P. Labelle

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Dr. Bertrand asked if Council had any objection to moving 6.1 (Elimination of CARL) to 4.1 under Business Arising from the Minutes. Council had no objection.

A motion to approve the agenda as amended carried unanimously

2. REMARKS FROM THE CHAIR

Dr. Bertrand informed Council that New Evolution had won the CSU elections and offered congratulations to Mr. Brent Farrington. He also informed Council that the voter turnout was the highest it has been in recent years with well over 4,000 students voting.

With respect to the concern expressed at the last meeting concerning the issue of the security cameras overlooking the Lobby, Dr Bertrand confirmed that these cameras could not view the polling stations located in the Lobby. He also confirmed that Security was aware that tabling was allowed in the Lobby in conjunction with events in H 110 or the D.B.

Clarke. However, he added "tabling" is only allowed two hours before on the day of the event.

With respect to the issue of high security costs incurred by student groups for their events, Dr. Bertrand indicated that a document dealing with this issue is still in the drafting stages. He hoped to have a document distributed before the May meeting.

Dr. Bertrand noted that the annual CCSL Student Life Awards Ceremony was tonight in the Guadagni Lounge on the Loyola campus. He encouraged Council members to participate in this important celebration.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE MEETING OF March 5, 2004

A motion to approve the minutes was made by Mr.Côté and seconded by Mr. Farrington.

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

4.1 Elimination of CARL

Mr. Côté spoke briefly to this issue. He explained that two years ago the University supported the introduction of the Web Registration as developed by our IITS department. The decision was made to maintain CARL for a period of two years during the transition. Both the 2002-03 and 2003-04 class schedules informed students that CARL would no longer be available by March 2004 and would be replaced by web-registration. He explained that the web registration was capable of 250 concurrent registrations as compared to 64 concurrent registrations offered by CARL. He added that the goal is to increase the concurrent web registration capabilities to 500. The university is committed to ensuring that there are support systems in place through the Faculties and IITS for those students who don't have access to computers or are unfamiliar or uncomfortable with the process. He noted that when McGill University changed from telephone registration to web registration it was literally done over night - there was no transition period. However, he did agree that the university could have done a better job of publicizing the closure of CARL and noted that the university was actively correcting the situation.

Mr. Chambers, Faculty of Arts & Science spoke briefly about the faculty commitment to assisting students with problems and encouraged students to contact the faculties if assistance is needed. He also explained that his

faculty works closely with the Office for Students with Disabilities as well as international students to ensure that their needs are being met.

Mr. Farrington asked why the decision to eliminate CARL had been made. Mr. Côté explained the cost and difficulty of maintaining two systems was prohibitive. Ms Hedrich added that there were problems in ensuring that the two systems were always “in sync” with each other.

Ms Avalos asked if there had been any consideration given to changing the deadline to drop courses. Mr. Côté said there had been no discussion on this. He also explained that as these deadlines were based on government regulations he suspected that the university was “locked-in” to these dates.

Mr. Hamideh noted that the web-registration is closed from 12midnight to 2:00am. As that period is a popular time for students to be on the computer, he asked that the “closing time” be changed to 4:00am-6:00am. Mr. Hamideh explained that students who do not as yet have “net-names” are required to go to IITS on the 9th floor. As those students are the most likely to be unfamiliar with computer processes, he suggested that the 9th floor would be a good place to have access to computers with a support system available. He also felt it was important to advertise these options in the student newspapers, CUBES, etc.

Dr. Bertrand thanked Mr. Côté, Mr. Miller and Mr. Chambers for taking the time to listen to and address the concerns expressed by Council concerning the elimination of CARL.

4.2. Membership of CCSL Committee overseeing Off-Campus Housing & Job Bank

Dr. Bertrand indicated that Roger Côté’s name was submitted by Ms Drew as the representative from CCSL. There was no nomination at this time for the representative from CSU. The remaining position is that of the Dean of Students or his delegate and Dr. Bertrand indicated he would occupy this position. The term is for one year June 1, 2004- May 31, 2005. Council was in unanimous agreement with the appointments.

4.3 Recreation & Athletics Board Motion (K. Sheahan, seconded by Me Frégeau)

Ms Sheahan distributed for Council's approval the revised document with respect to the membership and the role of CSU and the GSA in the appointment of students-at-large.

The motion to approve the document as amended carried unanimously

5. REPORTS AND ITEMS OF INFORMATION

There were no reports.

6. STUDENT LIFE ISSUES

Ms Naqvi informed Council that the washrooms on the Loyola Campus, apart from the Science Building, were continually dirty and smelly. Ms Boujaklian informed Council that there was a renovation project in the works for the Administration & Central buildings that hopefully will address these problems. She said she would verify if there were any renovation plans for Hingston Hall. Ms Boujaklian agreed there are problems and reiterated that complaints concerning cleanliness, etc should be made as soon as possible to the work centre (2400) in order to deal with the situation.

Ms Naqvi asked for an update on the installation of the emergency phone in the basement of the Campus Centre. She had been under the impression it was to be installed last month. Mr. Brisebois said he would follow-up on the issue.

Ms Naqvi asked if more portals could be made available on the Loyola Campus. Dr. Bertrand offered, on behalf of Council, to approach Mr. McAusland on this issue.

Ms Naqvi said the cleanliness of the tables on the 7th floor was greatly improved except for the period after People's Potato Lunch servings. She asked if it would be possible to do another cleaning after 2:30pm. Ms Boujaklian offered to follow-up on this issue.

Mr. Rosenshein broached the subject of mandatory name-tags for Security officers. Mr. Brisebois explained that the expense is quite costly as the turn-over in security guards is high. Mr. Brisebois reiterated that it is strict university policy for all security officers to identify themselves when asked unless they are in the middle of a "situation". If a guard refuses to identify themselves, a report should be made to security immediately.

Mr. Farrington noted that the CSU has plans for renovations to the 7th floor Cafeteria of the Hall Building. However, at the moment, the lack of chairs in the cafeteria is problematic. He asked if, in the interim, wooden chairs could be transferred to the Cafeteria. Ms Boujaklian agreed to follow-up on this request. (*no extra chairs*)

Mr. Farrington asked if the hole in the back door of the P Annex could be repaired. He also noted that the escalator from the 7th floor to the 6th floor is continually not working. Ms Boujaklian took note of these concerns.

Mr. Farrington informed Council that the University had plans to turn the de Seve cinema into a classroom. As this venue is in great demand by our student groups, he saw this decision as detrimental to student life at the university. Dr. Bertrand agreed and also indicated that the de Seve Family had donated the funds for a specific purpose - the de Seve Cinema. Therefore he was somewhat surprised at the university's decision to eliminate the cinema. He offered to forward these concerns expressed by Council to the Rector's office.

Mr. Farrington said that the Green House located in the Hall Building is not in use at all by the university and he asked that this space be re-designated as student space. *ref. to Hartune*

Mr. Farrington spoke briefly about the space issues facing CISA, ASFA and ECA. At this time both ASFA and ECA occupy the office space where CISA is scheduled to move. As ASFA and ECA are both umbrella groups, he felt it was a priority to ensure these groups have appropriate office space for their executive and staff.

Ms Avalos described an incident where Security stopped and started the escalator in mid-stream with people on it. Mr. Brisebois said this was totally unacceptable and that such incidences should be reported immediately to ensure the safety of the community. *report for Dec. mtg*

7. NEW BUSINESS

7.1 Off-Campus Housing & Job Bank Year-End Report

Dr. Bertrand complimented Ms Christina Xydous on a most comprehensive report. For the first time in many years, the report contained budget information as well as statistics, goals and achievements. Me Frégeau, seconded by Mr. Côté made the motion to

approve the transfer of \$20,600 to the CSU Off-Campus Housing & Job Bank for the year 2003-2004.

The motion carried unanimously

7.2 Library update – Information Literacy (Mr. W. Curran)

Mr. Curran introduced Mr. Patrick Labelle, Instruction/Reference Librarian, to Council. They explained that a simple definition of Information Literacy “is the set of skills needed to find, retrieve, analyze and use information”. A document was distributed to Council which detailed the importance of information literacy to the Concordia community. The document included also results of the CREPPUQ survey on this issue. This document also explained the goals of the Library to ensure that our students receive exposure to IL and the different ways this can be achieved at the university including a required course on library/information research.

Dr. Howe encouraged the development of this important program. Having dealt with cases of academic misconduct, Dr. Howe felt this initiative would be of great assistance as a means of ensuring our students are properly informed and aware.

Dr. Shaver applauded this initiative as well and felt it was also important to have this “discussion” at the level of each of the Faculty Councils.

Ms Steenbergen explained she had been involved in a similar initiative developed by the Simone de Beauvoir Institute. This program had been welcomed by students and was of great benefit to the students and their studies.

Mr. Hamideh informed Council that there were over 200 cases of plagiarism this year alone and felt that a warning and information should be included on the home page of the Library web-site.

Dr. Bertrand thanked Mr. Curran and Mr. Labelle for a most informative session.

8. Next Meeting: May 7, 2004 10:00am SGW Campus H 769

10. Termination of Meeting

A motion to terminate was made by Ms Naqvi and seconded by Ms. Steenbergen.